

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Final Office Action dated June 9, 2006 and the subsequent Advisory Action dated November 28, 2006 issued by the Examiner in response to the Response to Final Office Action filed October 10, 2006. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that the amendments to claim 15 would not be entered because while that amendment would overcome the rejection of claim 15, the rejections to other claims (particularly claims 17 and 20) would remain. In this after-final amendment and response, Applicants have amended claims 17 and 20 consistent with claim 15, and respectfully submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Because the Examiner indicated that the amendments to claim 15 were not entered, claim 15 remains "currently amended" including the same claim amendment presented in the Response filed October 10, 2006.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants' representative, Matthew Moscicki (57,524), contacted Examiner Steven Marsh by telephone on December 7, 2006. Claims 17 and 20 were discussed. Applicants' representative inquired about amending claims 17 and 20 consistent with claim 15 to overcome all rejections of claims 15, 17 and 20. The Examiner agreed that the amendment presented in claim 15 could be included in claim 17 to overcome the rejections of that claim. With respect to claim 20, the Examiner reiterated that the structure present in an apparatus claim must be found in the method claim 20 for the same amendment to claim 20 to overcome the rejection of that claim. Applicants' representative stated that all of the structure found in an apparatus claim (particularly, claim 17) is also found in claim 20.

I. Claim Amendments

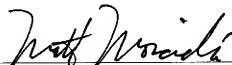
Claims 15, 17 and 20 are amended consistently with the Interview Summary above. Particularly, claim 15 remains amended as presented in the Response filed October 10, 2006, which the Examiner has indicated is sufficient to overcome the rejection of that claim. Claims 17 and 20 are amended to include the same or very similar claim amendments. The remaining claims

in the application are variously dependent from claims 15, 17 and 20. Therefore, all pending claims should now be allowable over the art of record.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. No new matter is introduced by way of amendment. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the Final Office Action dated June 9, 2006 has been fully addressed. An extension of time is provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Conley Rose, P.C.'s Deposit Account Number 03-2769 (2051-00100).

Respectfully submitted,



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